

REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from claims 3 and 5-8.

A new abstract page is supplied to conform to that appearing on the publication page of the WIPO application, but the new Abstract is typed on a separate page as required by U.S. practice.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Marked-up Copy".

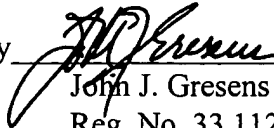
Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, John J. Gresens (Reg. No. 33,112), at (612) 371.5265.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 18 December 2001

By  \_\_\_\_\_  
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JJG:hjh

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 3 and 5-8 as follows:

91  
SUB  
BIZ

3. (Amended) An insulating composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the multimodal ethylene copolymer has a viscosity of  
2500-7500 Pa.s at 135°C and a shear rate of 10 s<sup>-1</sup>,  
1000-2200 Pa.s at 135°C and a shear rate of 100 s<sup>-1</sup>, and  
250-400 Pa.s at 135°C and a shear rate of 1000 s<sup>-1</sup>.

92  
SUB  
BIZ

5. (Amended) An insulating composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the comonomer of the copolymer is at least one member selected from the group consisting of propylene, 1-butene, 4-methyl-1-pentene, 1-hexene, and 1-octene.

6. (Amended) An insulating composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the MWD is 4-5.

7. (Amended) An insulating composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the multimodal ethylene copolymer is a bimodal ethylene copolymer comprising 30-60 % by weight of a low molecular weight ethylene copolymer fraction and 70-40 % by weight of a high molecular weight ethylene copolymer fraction.

8. (Amended) An insulating composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the multimodal ethylene copolymer includes a low molecular weight ethylene copolymer fraction having a density of 0.900-0.950 g/cm<sup>3</sup> and a MFR<sub>2</sub> of 50-100 g/10 min.

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3. An insulating composition as claimed in [any one of claims 1-2,] claim 1, wherein the multimodal ethylene copolymer has a viscosity of 2500-7500 Pa.s at 135°C and a shear rate of 10 s<sup>-1</sup>, 1000-2200 Pa.s at 135°C and a shear rate of 100 s<sup>-1</sup>, and 250-400 Pa.s at 135°C and a shear rate of 1000 s<sup>-1</sup>.

5. An insulating composition as claimed in [any one of claims 1-4,] claim 1, wherein the comonomer of the copolymer is at least one member selected from the group consisting of propylene, 1-butene, 4-methyl-1-pentene, 1-hexene, and 1-octene.

6. An insulating composition as claimed in [any one of claims 1-5,] claim 1, wherein the MWD is 4-5.

7. An insulating composition as claimed in [any one of claims 1-6,] claim 1, wherein the multimodal ethylene copolymer is a bimodal ethylene copolymer comprising 30-60 % by weight of a low molecular weight ethylene copolymer fraction and 70-40 % by weight of a high molecular weight ethylene copolymer fraction.

8. An insulating composition as claimed in [any one of claims 1-7,] claim 1, wherein the multimodal ethylene copolymer includes a low molecular weight ethylene copolymer fraction having a density of 0.900-0.950 g/cm<sup>3</sup> and a MFR<sub>2</sub> of 50-100 g/10 min.

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